(a) whether Government are aware that the European Economic Community group has been apathetic towards India so far trade relations are concerned despite recent economic changes and investment opportunities in India;

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government have convinced The President of EEC to parsuade other member countries of the Group to have a liberal and positive attitude towards India intheir relations; and

(c) the details of negotiations held during the current visit of Portguese President in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). During the visit of the President of Ptertugal to India, the European Community's willingness to further strengthen economic relations with India was reiterated. The EC is at present the largest market for Indian exports and the most important source of foreign investment.

Some initiatives taken recently to upgrade the Indo EC relationship include:-

i) the decision to establish a technical working group for exploring possibilities of upgrading economic and technical cooperation.

ii) Signing of the Indo-EEC International Partners Scheme to provide for EEC assistance in establishing Indo-EEC Joint Ventures in India.

iii) the decision to hold negotiations for concluding a comprehensive Indo-EEC Fisheries Agreement and

iv) providing for EC financial and technical assistance for trade promotion programmes in selected sectors, besides support in upgradation of standards.

Intensification of Military Activity by Pakistan

2934. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has intensified its military activities along the line of control recently;

(b) if so, he details thereof;

(c) the retaliatory measures taken by the Government in this regard since January 1992 onwards; and

(d) whether the Government propose to complete the fencing on Indo-Pak border from Jammu and Kashmir to Gujarat under the present situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN HE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Government have received no reports regarding Pakistan having recently intensified its military activities along the Line of Control.

(c) Adequate measures exist to insure inviolability of the Line of Control and our borders, at all times.

(d) Construction of fencing in selected stretches of the Indo-Pak border has already been undertaken.